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NO. 37.

LACKING IN GENUINE SPIRIT OF SCHOLARSHIP

A Defect Found in Ceylon Students

THE PROBLEM OF GROWING STRENGTH AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

“THERE are too few students endowed with the genuine spirit of scholarship and the University College stands in danger of being forced into the mould of a “service institution” observes Mr. R. Marrs, Principal of the University College, in his Administration Report for 1936-37.

The Principal writes:—

Turning to the situation at the Ceylon University College one finds that it is unquestionably overcrowded though the total number of students is not large in proportion to the country's population. The financial resources of the country are limited. There is little chance of employment for graduates abroad. The best graduates are unwilling to enter the teaching profession, and the existence of statutory scales of salaries for teachers in any case limits the number of graduate teachers which managers of schools can afford to employ. Further, traditional valuations in the sphere of employment have still the strongest hold on both parents and students. Strengthened by the rapid process of Ceylonization of the services they militate against the movement of any significant percentage of graduates away from the limited occupations and professions. In some countries, where similar conditions operate, there is nevertheless a percentage of students who show a genuine interest in learning for its own sake and are not prepared to sacrifice the scholar's ambition to the ends of self-interest. This is, unhappily, not yet true of Ceylon, where the rush for academic diplomas as the key to social and economic advancement promises to sweep out of its paths the few forlorn seekers after truth for its own sake. Various devices have been suggested in other countries for the preservation of the highest university ideals and for a better occupational

distribution. But the social and economic facts of Ceylon do not lend themselves to an easy solution of the problem and we may anticipate that graduate and educated unemployment will grow steadily more acute and must be taken into account in the estimation of the funds which the state may wisely devote to higher education. It is permissible to add a reference to an important result of “educated” unemployment which has been well expressed by a former General Secretary of International Student Service at Geneva: “it is not the least of evils that the possession of a diploma makes the student think that he has the right to demand a job where no “suitable” jobs are available, he is reluctant to go in for jobs for which no diploma is required. Only too often he prefers to curse those in power and to line up with the disgruntled factions, whether of the right or the left, in order to enforce his rights by political means”. Such evils are aggravated immeasurably in an age which lives on “propaganda” when the mind of youth is being deliberately and sedulously twisted away from the direct search for truth and from the main object of their presence of a University.

Size of Future University

Meanwhile the immediate problem at the University College is largely caused by the second of the two main reasons given above for overcrowding though it is undoubtedly aggravated by the mere physical fact of inadequate premises. By a

(Continued from page 7)

ANCIENT HINDU MARRIAGE

II. Possession of Children

By S. R. Muttukumar

(Continued from our issue of 11-8-38)

THE primary object of a Hindu marriage is the begetting of worthy children especially sons. Mrs. Sinclair Stevenson writes that “the bride chosen must have living brothers; if not, it is not likely that she will bear sons, unless special and expensive rites be performed.” She adds that “this best regulation points to what is quite frankly and naturally the object of every Indian in marrying, and of every parent in arranging for his children's marriage, that it may result in the birth of sons; and that the very simplicity of this object is often very beautiful and sacramental.”⁽¹⁾

Of all the wealth one may possess in this fleeting world, the following four are deemed by the Hindus to be deserving of special mention, viz:—(1) Wealth of Land, (2). Wealth of Gold, (3). Wealth of Children, and (4). Wealth of Wisdom. The possession of worthy children is thus second only to the realization of God. Children are not considered to be mere encumbrances, as in many other parts of the world, but are esteemed as royal gifts from the Gods. Therefore, Auvvyar says:—

“வாய் மக்கள் மூல மருக்கி” (2) meaning:—“Intelligent children are like ambrosia to their parents”, or in other words, “Our children's balm-like fondness age delays”

Tiruvallavar says:—
“பெருமவந் தன் யாமறிவதில்கை யந் வறிந்த

“ககட்டுபெருவ சிற” (3) meaning:—“Among all the benefits that may be acquired, we know no greater benefit than the acquisition of intelligent children”, or in other words, “The world no higher good supplies, than children virtues and wise.”

The Mahabharata has:—
“Who has no babes to climb into his arms,
And with their playfulness his heart rejoice,
Or run with tears from infantile alarms,

1. Rites of the Twice-born p. 48.
2. Konraiventan, 2.
3. Kural, 81.

And clinging melt him with their prattling voice,
As sweet as juice from ripened fruit that flows—
So poor a man no true enjoyment knows.”

E. J. Robinson

The Brahmoetra Kandam has:—

“Whatever his accumulated gain,
Although his wife, by sacrifice won,
The pride and beauty of his house remain,
Be his religious duties strictly done,
Though opulence its pomp around him show,
The childless man is lowest of the of the low.”

E. J. Robinson

The Kasi Kandam has:—

“Whatever means of pleasure they possess,
They still are destitute of true delight
Who have no red-lipped children to caress,
In prattle musical, in beauty bright
The treasure craving of parental joy,
In acts of penance yourselves employ.”

E. J. Robinson

Manu also says that “children are the cause of happiness in this world and in the next, and that, when wives are blest because of offspring, worthy of honour, lamps in the house, there is no difference whatever between such houses and the goddess of fortune.”⁽⁴⁾

In this connection the pertinent remarks of Abbe Dubois may be read with some pardonable pride. The Abbe writes “Other nations which are very proud of their enlightenment and morality suppress the natural desire of seeing oneself born again in one's numerous progeny from considerations of personal interest and ambition and regard the fruitfulness of their women with aversion. They are moreover not ashamed of resorting to wicked and disgusting means of reducing or destroying it altogether, thus outraging the most holy instincts of nature in order that they may not deprive themselves of the means of satisfying their ambition or of procuring the luxuries of life, as if the love of a father

(Continued on Page 2)

(4) Dharmā Sutra, ix, 25, 26.

TEACHERS SHOULD PRACTISE MEDITATION

Speaker's Advice to Teachers

NORTHERN PROVINCE TEACHERS REFRESHER COURSE

THAT teachers should set apart at least a few minutes a day for meditation was the advice tendered to teachers by Sir Waitialingam Duraiswamy in his opening address on Monday at the Teachers Refresher Course organised by the Northern Province Teachers Association and the Northern Division Inspectorate at St. John's College, Jaffna.

Mr. V. Veerasingham, President of the Northern Province Teachers' Association in welcoming Sir Waitialingam, said that they (the teachers) were glad that the opening address was to be delivered by Sir Waitialingam. Sir Waitialingam, before he was elevated to the position of Speaker, had been a great champion of teachers and an ardent promoter of first-rate education.

He had worked hand in hand with Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara in the old Legislative Council to maintain and uphold the dignity of the teaching profession. (Applause). Had Sir Waitialingam not been muzzled as Speaker of the Council, he would have told the present day critics who complained of the rising cost of education in the country that that was not an abnormal phenomenon in the history of any progressive country.

Referring to the Refresher Course that was to begin that morning, Mr. Veerasingham said that the idea of such a course was first suggested to them at a Committee meeting of their Association by Mr. Somasegaram, their acting District Inspector of Schools. Their thanks were due to him for the work he had put in connection with the organisation of that course. Mr. Lorage, the Head of the Education Department in Jaffna, and the Secretary of the Association, deserved their thanks.

"Galaxy of Experts"

They had been fortunate in securing as lecturers for that week a galaxy of educational experts, men like Mr. H. S. Perera, the Principal of the Training College, who had given a new strength to that institution, and Dr. Isaac Tambyah, whom he (the speaker) would describe as a modern miracle. In Dr. Tambyah they had one who was a lawyer, a divine, a philosopher, a poet and a politician.

"When we speak of Fifty-Fifty, we are ready to climb down to something much less. But it was not so in the case of Dr. Tambyah. With him Fifty-Fifty is Fifty-Fifty." (Laughter).

Speaking of Dr. Tambyah's intended departure for Bandarawela, the speaker said it would be a real calamity to Jaffna, and hoped that Dr. Tambyah would yet re-consider his decision.

Teachers as Students

Sir Waitialingam Duraiswamy thanked Mr. Veerasingham for the

cordial way in which he had welcomed him. It was a great pleasure for him, he said, to come amongst the teachers of the Northern Province, teachers who had become students for that week. (Laughter). That was a very essential change.

The responsibility of teachers was, as they were aware, very great and they, the members of the Northern Province Teachers' Association, were discharging their duties with considerable efficiency. That was the uniform opinion of those who had known and seen their work. On them (teachers) rested the great and sacred responsibility of training the youth of that country. He knew that they were doing their work honestly. Still there was room for improvement.

Value of Meditation

Teachers were before the eyes of everyone. Boys and girls looked at them daily. Every little act they did was watched by their students and assimilated by them. Speaking as a layman, he would wish to impress on them that they should therefore be god-fearing men and women. That could be achieved by meditation. Meditation helped in the strengthening of one's mind. He (the speaker) would suggest that they should set apart at least a few minutes a day for meditation. At the end of a few days of meditation they would find themselves so strengthened in their minds as to be able to concentrate with a greater degree of success on their work.

Mr. C. T. Lorage thanked Sir Waitialingam for his inspiring words of advice. In stressing the spiritual side of education Sir Waitialingam had revealed to them that morning the inner man with him.

Dr. Isaac Tambyah then delivered a talk on English prose.

ANCIENT HINDU MARRIAGE

(Continued from page 1)

for his children were not the greatest of all pleasures. Animated in this respect by the noblest and purest sentiments, the Hindus consider a man happy in proportion to the number of children he possesses. Among them, indeed, children are considered to be the blessing of a house. However numerous a man's family may be, he never ceases to offer a prayer for its increase⁽⁵⁾.

"There is a superstition, admirable in its way, which is a

(5) *Hindu Manners* etc. 3rd ed pp. 502, 503

REFUSES MEDICAL AID THOUGH ILL

MATALE U. D. C. CHAIRMAN BELIEVES IN FAITH-CURE

FRIENDS SEEK AID OF LAW

Matale, Tuesday.

FRIENDS and sympathisers of Mr. C. S. Rajaratnam, Chairman of Matale Urban District Council, who though ill refuses to call in a doctor because he is a Pentecostal Mission convert, are seeking the assistance of the law to get him removed from the "faith-healing" environment in which he is at present.

Mr. N. S. Govindasamy swore an affidavit before the Police Magistrate (Mr. Roland de Zoysa) and said that he wanted the Magistrate to order the removal of the sick man from the Pentecostal Mission House at Mahiyawa, Kandy.

Mr. Govindasamy, who is not a Christian, stated in his affidavit that the "Pentecostal Mission," which has its headquarters in Colombo and branches throughout Ceylon, is a congregation of some peculiar men with strange ideas, as they are regularly carrying out a campaign against all doctors.

"The mission, by means of his anti-medicine campaign, is carrying out subversive activities in Ceylon in general and in Matale in particular.

"The conversion of Mr. Rajaratnam to this novel Mission has resulted in a new impetus to the hospital-boycott movement in Ceylon.

"Mr. Rajaratnam is at present suffering from a serious illness which is increasing. The members of the Mission are influencing him not to take medicine," the affidavit continued.

"Slaves to Mission"

"Mr. Rajaratnam has lost his common sense and, therefore, refuses to take medicine.

"The members of the "Pentecostal Mission are bent upon establishing the pentecostal faith in Ceylon at the expense of the life of poor Mr. Rajaratnam.

"Mrs. Rajaratnam and her father are also slaves of the above Mission" the affidavit alleged.

"The members of the Pentecostal Mission," with the assistance of Mrs. Rajaratnam and her father, removed Mr. Rajaratnam to Kandy to prevent his friends and relations from meeting him and to keep him without medicine,

(Continued on page 7)

powerful factor in keeping up in the mind of a Hindu this ardent desire of seeing his race prolonged. In his eyes there is no misfortune equal to that of not having a son or a grandson behind to perform the last duties in connection with his funeral. Such a deprivation is regarded as capable of preventing all access to an Abode of Bliss after death⁽⁶⁾.

Does not the God of the Christians say: "Increase and multiply"?

(To be continued.)

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(6) *Ibid.* p. 503.

REVIEW

AN ETYMOLOGICAL AND COMPARATIVE LEXICON OF THE TAMIL LANGUAGE: By Rev. S. Gnanaprakasam, O.M.I. Vol. I, Part I. XLVIII—48 pages: Price Rs. 2 or 3 shillings, exclusive of postage.

Nearly eighty years ago, Dr. Caldwell made the astounding observation that Tamil had little or no connection with the Indo-European group of languages. Shortly after this, Dr. Pope said that, the more he studied Tamil, the more he was convinced of its affinity to the Indo-European languages. Subsequently, Dr. Caldwell himself had to agree that "the Dravidian idioms exhibit traces of an ancient, deep-seated connexion with Prae-Sanskrit—the assumed archaic mother tongue of the Indo-European family." Rev. S. Gnanaprakasam's work attempts to carry this conclusion further and show "that DR (Dravidian) and IE (Indo-European) words are actually derived from the same primitive roots."

Rev. Gnanaprakasam's theory—following a reasoning of its own—agrees with the view of all ancient Tamil scholars that Tamil—the most ancient of all spoken languages—is closely connected with Sanskrit—the most ancient of all written languages. The reverend gentleman's theory centres round the four deictic groups—*a* (அ) *u* (உ), *i* (இ) and *e* (ஈ)—showing, respectively, the ideas of Proximity, Remoteness or being Hidden from view, being Beneath and being Above. He argues that the earliest words or roots of the Proto-Dravidian language are composed of one of the deictic bases *a* (அ), *u* (உ), *i* (இ) and *e* (ஈ), and a formative consonant that such "primary words represent the most elementary ideas, and can be called word-types" and that, unlike the artificial "roots" of western philologists, these primary words "are instinct with thought, their sound-vehicle itself corresponding, by a natural aptitude, to the particular idea conveyed." "Secondary ideas", he continues, "such as being short or long, thin or thick, straight or bent, etc., all reducible to the primary ideas of near and far, are represented by some of them without change of form, as அருள், 'to get near', which also means 'to contract, to be thick, to come to a point, to be short, to be curved' etc. Others convey secondary ideas, by their derived forms. Thus: இடி, 'to go down', becomes இடி-அ, 'to ding down'. Again, from இடி-அ comes இடி-அ-கு, 'to lag behind, to be sticky', etc. How even the most abstract thoughts are expressed by forms developed from the original word-types—as these thoughts themselves were developed from corresponding idea-types—will be seen by consulting the Lexicon."

It is useless to expect orthodox philologists of modern times to agree with these conclusions, for they have not chosen to pursue a combined course of studies in Sanskrit as well as Tamil, but such scholars as are familiar with both Sanskrit and Tamil will at least believe that much can be said in favour of these conclusions. Rev. Gnanaprakasam's arduous labours are sure to widen the bounds of linguistic research to a considerable extent and, what is more important, to advance the noble idea of the Brotherhood of Man in so far as the consciousness of having inherited a common vehicle of expression can do it. So, we wish his enterprise all success.

N. NARAYANAN

MEN AND MATTERS.

BUDGET SPEECHES

Lacking in Constructive Criticism

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS: A MOVE TOWARDS RECONCILIATION

By Wayfarer

THE Budget Debate is in full swing. The King's Counsel from Balapitya set the ball rolling and the record for the first marathon in this year's debate is keenly contested. Judging from the length of the speeches so far delivered, it is feared that the debate will drag on till September and there is every prospect of a bulky volume of Hansard.

One common characteristic of the Budget criticisms is the lack of thorough knowledge of finance and other problems of public affairs, a very essential qualification for legislators. Another characteristic of past budget speeches was the lack of constructive criticism, and all the opposition that have been offered during the past seven years have been feeble and half-hearted. There is no AI leader to muster the back benchers. Even if the 'Government' is defeated on their financial policy, there is no party with a clear-cut programme and policy to replace them. The members who withdrew from the Chamber during the speech of Mr Francis de Zoysa exhibited bad taste. Or perhaps they were loathe to hear the K. C. condemning in strong language the bribery and corruption that is alleged to prevail in Executive Committees. I hope the Honourable members of the House will realize that the Member for Balapitya was only echoing the widespread opinion of the country.

The Report of the Bracegirdle Commission is already with the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Dame Runciter has lot to say regarding the findings of the Commission. A bird in the know of things whispers to me that the majority report of the Commission is against the I. G. P. I also understand that the majority report has something to say in regard to the conduct of the Chief Secretary, Mr M. M. Wedderburn.

According to the same bird, after all, the hopes and expectations of some of Sir Baron's opponents may go frustrated. I hear there had been an unusual activity in certain quarters, of course on the assumption that Sir Baron will be found fault by the Bracegirdle Commission and that he would resign his position as Minister and Leader of the House, to step into Sir Baron's position as Leader.

The Reforms activities have shifted to another scene. The Congress

deputation is already doing some work in England. The Governor is already on his way to London. There is no doubt that Sir Andrew Caldecott will see the Secretary of State for the Colonies and have a talk with him on Constitutional Reforms. One wonders whether Mr. Malcolm MacDonald would change his mind and yet receive the Amarasuriya brigade. Already the reactionary Press in England has started their old game; they have started a campaign against the granting of a liberal Constitution for the Island.

At long last the Jaffna Association has realized that an agreement on all differences, with the Major Community is a condition precedent to the advancement of the Tamils and the country at large. Hence its proposal to convene a conference of the Sinhalese leaders and the Tamil Leaders to formulate ways and means of bringing about a closer co-operation between the two communities. This is very encouraging and heartening. So far I have been able to ascertain that the progressive elements of the Jaffna Association are asserting themselves in the affairs of the Association. Hence this change of front. Congratulations to the progressives of the Jaffna Association Executive.

I hear that there is lot of heart-burning among the senior Civil Servants in regard to the acting appointments as a result of the departure of the Governor on leave. Mr. Murphy who is acting Chief Secretary is quite a junior compared to some civil servants like Newnham, Hodson and Rock. Even in the Civil Service luck plays a big part. Take the case of two Civil Servants who entered the service on the same day like Messrs. Wodeman and Newnham. Mr. Wodeman is acting Governor today and Mr. Newnham is Principal Collector of Customs, having just sent in his papers for retirement.

Jaffna abounds in educational institutions. Some are century old. One of them—a Girls College—celebrated its centenary celebrations. Vembadi Girls College has a long record of service and has played a big part in the training of many a mother in Jaffna. The only lady legislator is an old girl of the College and the first Tamil lady doctor is also a Vembadi girl. Let us hope we will have many more lady legislators and doctors in the near future from Vembadi. Well done Vembadi!

Choice of University Site

Colombo Better, Says an Ex-Chancellor

Colombo, Sunday.

"Colombo might have been the better site for the Ceylon University," said Sir Mungo Mac Cullum, former Chancellor of the Sydney University, Australia, to me yesterday, when I mentioned to him that the Executive Committee of Education had picked at last on Peradeniya as the site.

Sir Mungo added, however, that a lack of knowledge of local conditions would not permit him to express a decided opinion.

"The policy of establishing Universities in large towns, which have the advantage of a big constituency and other attendant facilities, has been adopted by all leading universities," he said.

"The institutions established in big provincial towns like Liverpool, Manchester and Leeds, are important examples."

"This policy has proved to be more beneficial than the choice of remote, secluded areas, as University sites, in spite of the many arguments adduced on their behalf, as for instance, that of a salubrious environment for University study.

"A case in parallel is the proposed establishment of a University in Canberra, which is generally not favoured, due to its secluded situation.

Foreign Scholarships

"Oxford and Cambridge at first paid the price of a poor patronage, owing to their seclusion, and it was only after they had established their traditions, that they drew students.

"France and Germany have established their Universities in their capitals," he added.

Speaking on University education, Sir Mungo said that although Ceylon would some day establish her own University traditions, she would still benefit greatly by sending students abroad to other Universities, for that foreign experience and specialization which was so necessary for a satisfactory completion of a University career.

The Sydney University, he explained, voted scholarships in order to enable its deserving students to enjoy those advantages. Several of them were sent to America for specialization in engineering and veterinary science.

(Times Cor.)

Personal

Dr. A. W. Rasiah, who returned to the Island on Sunday, has been appointed Port Health Officer and Air Port Officer, Colombo. During his stay in England he obtained the D.P.H. London. He also received special training in Air Raid Precaution and Relief Work. He has visited aerodromes in Egypt to study air port health work in that country.

HEALTH OF JAFFNA

DR. CHELLAPPAN'S TRIBUTE TO U. D. C.

CHANGE OF HEART IN THE COUNTRY

A High tribute to the Chairman and members of the Jaffna Urban District Council and the Medical Officer of Health for the way in which the health of Jaffna is being looked after, is contained in a report by the Assistant Director of Sanitary Services, Dr. S. F. Chellappan, which is at present being circulated among members of the U. D. C.

The following are extracts from the report:—"I met the M. O. H., Dr. Nadarajah, the Chairman, Mr. Sam. Sabapathy, and the Sanitary Inspectors of the U. D. C. I discussed matters of public health interest with the M. O. H. and the Chairman and I have come away with the impression that the tide has definitely changed in Jaffna in favour of public health work, which is being well organised by Dr. Nadarajah with the whole-hearted co-operation of the Chairman and his Council.

"The change of heart within the U. D. C. area will have a favourable influence on the work in the Jaffna district. The U. D. C. is consenting to look after health needs and is also making a contribution towards work in the district. The Chairman, his Council, his staff and the M. O. H. are to be heartily congratulated on the progress that they are making. There is greater joy in heaven over the one stray sheep that came back to the fold than over the 101 that have stayed within.

"Relationship of the M. O. H. with the Chairman has been placed on a proper basis. The M. O. H. is recognised as the Executive Officer in health matters in the town and is allowed to act as such in every way. The Chairman's confidence is such that he places even work that should be done by other officers of his staff on the M. O. H.

"Some action has been taken regarding the Karaiyur slum area clearance. I agreed with the Chairman that for this work to be effective the whole scheme of construction of houses on the reclaimed area could not be cleared.

The reclaimed area is leased to the U. D. C. for 99 years. The U. D. C. proposes to lease land to people for a number of years on conditions that they construct buildings to conform with their plan, and to construct building themselves and rent them to people.

"The few buildings that they have put up on a new plan which has been approved by the Local Government Board."

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE O. B. A.

The Reunion of Old Boys of J. H. C. will take place on 4th September 1938.

Programme

- 8.30 a.m. Pooja
9.30 a.m. Thevaram-singing Competition: College Students
12.30 p.m. Lunch by the College
2.30 p.m. General Meeting
3.30 p.m. Volley Ball Match: Old Boys vs. College
4.30 p.m. Principal's Tea
5 p.m. Football Match: Old Boys vs. College
7-30 p.m. Dinner (College) Dining Hall

[Those who wish to join in the Dinner, please communicate to the Secretary on or before the 25th of August. *Dinner Ticket Re 1.*]

All Old Boys are kindly requested to be present on the occasion.

As the list of Old Boys is not comprehensive and complete and the addresses available insufficient or inadequate several Old Boys may not have received notice of the Annual General Meeting and the Old Boy's Day Celebrations.

Old Boys who have not sent their names and addresses to the Principal are kindly requested once more to do so to enable the Principal to have the Register of Old Boys up-to-date.

S. BALASUBRAHMANYAN
Secy., O. B. A., J. H. C.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 567
In the matter of the Estate of the late
Sivanthippillai wife of S. Nallai-
nathan of Urumpiray —Deceased.
Sivanthippillai Nallainathan of
Urumpiray

Vs. Petitioner.
(1. Nallainathan Satyamoorthy
(2. Kanaganthai and
(3. Valluvanayy daughters of Nal-
lainathan and

1. Madu V. Ponnampalam all of
Urumpiray Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the petitioner praying that the above-named 4th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor 1st to 3rd Respondents and that Letters of Administration be issued to him coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 2nd day of March 1938 in the presence of Mr. R. R. Nalliah Proctor for the Petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor 1st to 3rd Respondents for the purpose of protecting their interests and of representing them in these Testamentary Proceedings and that Letters of Administration be issued to the Petitioner as the lawful husband of the deceased unless the abovenamed Respondents appear before this Court on the 27th day of April 1938 and state objections to the contrary.

The 16th day of March 1938.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

Time to show cause extended to
24-8-38.

[O. 37. 18 & 24-8-38.]

Just Published!

தருமுநாற்றுப்படை

with Critical Introduction, Tamil

PARAPHRASE, ENGLISH TRANSLATION
AND POETS.

BY N. NARAYANAN, B. A., B. L. L. T.
M. R. A. S. (I. C. B.)

Lecturer, Jaffna Hindu College, and Editor,
ARURA, Vaanarpoundai, Jaffna.

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[Mis 113 11-8 to 1-9-38] [T]

Cancellation of Power of Attorney

I the undersigned Vaitialingam
Nadarajah of Mahththanai Kokuvil
East Jaffna, do hereby revoke and
cancel all Power of Attorney given
by me to Karthicasar Visuvalingam
of the same place.

V. NADARAJAH.

16-8-38

[Mis. 117. 18 & 22-8-38.]



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1938.

THE NEW EDUCATION ORDINANCE

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION moved last Tuesday the first reading of the New Education Ordinance. What the Minister claims for his handiwork is not conceded by educationists of repute in the Island. It is true to some extent to say that the new Bill consolidates something of the old provision. But that is trifle and unimportant. What it purports to usher in is not only important but revolutionary in character. The ultimate net result of the Bill would be, if the Governor and the Secretary of State sanctioned it, that the Government, that is the Executive Committee of Education, would control all education eliminating from that field all private enterprise. It is a prospect which will not be viewed with equanimity by missionary bodies whose investments are huge; nor is it desirable from the points of view of others who think that the Sinhalese Autocracy is forcing a pace calculated to make it paramount regardless of the stakes of the minorities in the country. The homogeneous Sinhalese Ministry has flouted the views of minorities on many an important question. Hence they look upon the Education Bill with concern, because it shifts the burden of cost in a measure to Local Bodies whose capacity for raising revenue is very much limited. We maintain that it is worse than blander to tax the Local Bodies for a part or whole of education cost in their different areas. The Sinhalese Ministers have by

this clever move tried to deprive the minority areas, which are furthest in situation, of the profits of trade and industry which flourish on the West of Ceylon, in and about Colombo and the hinterland; and these profits do not exclusively belong to the majority community, for those who are producers of these profits to the revenue are not exclusively Sinhalese but belong to several other racial groups. The Bill would, if passed in its present form, adversely affect the minorities. In its ultimate effect the Bill would compel the distant areas to pay for education more than they could possibly do. In this respect the Bill should be looked upon as a class legislation, for it would affect the minority areas disastrously, because while the indirect contribution of the minorities to the revenue is incalculable, their direct sources of supply are too limited. Thus the new Education Ordinance is unacceptable to the biggest minority of Tamils. To the missionary bodies who have laboured long in the field the Bill would do an injustice in that it would handicap them in their labours. Though they should have expected that their proselytising advantages should some day or other come to an end, yet the Bill would seem to deny them the barest justice of catering to their congregational needs. The full implication of the Bill so far as they are concerned, may not be ascertained. But they fear insecurity. It is not fair to contemplate any action which a section of the community distrusts.

The other aspect of the question of Education is the growing burden. This aspect alarms the Europeans and their friends in the Island. It is absolutely necessary to spend a fair portion of the revenue on education. The Europeans are uneasy because the mounting cost of education, if not checked, would one day necessitate economies which would make it obligatory on them to make sacrifices willingly or unwillingly. But the Europeans never pause to think why they should be paid extravagantly absurd salaries. The measure of their sense of responsibility may be gathered from the fact that the Governor did certify the holiday warrants for public servants before he left for England in search of health. It is an act of a Governor who realises the parlous position of the country's finances and has therefore ordered economies. People do know that the Civil Servants and the other over-sea officers are paid handsomely and it is superfluous to pay them travelling expenses. But the Governor's government insists on paying them and in the same breath preaches economy to the people and passes the pious opinion that the expenditure on education becomes wellnigh

unbearable. This is a bit of digression. All things considered the New Education Ordinance is a hasty measure. To empower the Executive Committee of Education into an arbitrary body, looks unwise. And then the Committee may be dissolved under a new Constitution. Further the complexity of the problem would require a more competent body than the Committee to deal with it. We have often supported the view for a Royal Commission on Education. It is nothing short of hypocrisy for the Minister of Education to think that it is an insult to the State Council for anybody to think that the Education Committee was incompetent to deal with the question of reorganising education. Though we have respect for the members of the Committee for what they are worth, we maintain that this Ordinance should stand down till a Royal Commission has investigated the question.

A Golden Opportunity

The question of the irrigation, drainage and water supply of the Northern Province has long been engaging the attention of the Government and the public alike. We have ourselves so often commented on it that it is superfluous to repeat what we have said before in this connection. This Province, as everybody knows, is subject to severe conditions of draught with the result that agriculturists are seriously handicapped for lack of irrigation facilities. It is a pity that in this riverless land even the available rain water is allowed to run to waste for want of planned reclamation of tanks and channels. Now that the Irrigation experts from India are in this country to examine plans and estimates for various irrigation schemes the Government has now on hand and to advise how best they could be carried out economically and efficiently, it is up to the Minister and the representatives of this Province to take full advantage of their presence in regard to this question which vitally affects the well-being of the people. It is the duty of our Councillors to bring to bear all their weight and knowledge upon the Minister to see that the experts investigate the problems thoroughly with a view to tackling it to the lasting benefit of the country. We hope and trust that our Councillors will not miss this golden opportunity.

DISAPPEARANCE OF WOMAN PILGRIM

Reward Offered for Information

A reward of Rs. 25 has been offered for information leading to the discovery of the elderly Tamil woman of Colombo, who disappeared from Kataragama during the festival. The woman, it is said, was wearing jewellery worth about Rs. 500.

JAPAN PREPARES FOR PROTRACTED WARFARE

Cabinet's Decision

FLOODS FRUSTRATE JAPANESE ADVANCE

TOKYO, Aug. 16

INTENSIFIED measures for National mobilisation are being put into practice after the decision of the Cabinet to "place Japan on an emergency footing, both moral and material."

It is announced that the Cabinet has decided to strengthen all necessary measures for meeting the protracted warfare by co-ordination of all national resources and bending the full energies of the country to crush the Chiang-Kai-shek administration and establish lasting peace in East Asia.

The Domei Agency states that the Cabinet was held on the eve of the drive to Hankow.

Hankow, Aug. 16.

With the Japanese drive on the North bank of the Yangtse frustrated by floods and the drive on the South bank halted by strong Chinese resistance, the Japanese are now attempting to circle round the Chinese Left Wing, enter the North-Western part of Hupe province and cut the Peking-Hankow railway to the North of Hankow.

The Japanese are concentrating 50 warships, 10 transport and many motor boats in the vicinity of Hunkow and Kiukiang with a view to a drive via the Poyang Lake.

BUDGET DEBATE IN COUNCIL

Adjourned Again for Want of Quorum

Colombo, Wednesday.

A feature of the Budget debate which was resumed in the State Council yesterday was the speech of the Minister of Health, who made a strong plea that the country should spend larger sums of money to improve the conditions of the people.

It was a fallacy, said Mr. De Silva, that they should have parties in Ceylon as in England. If they really wanted to attain progress, they should all co-operate in the work of raising the standard of the people.

Three other speeches were made yesterday, one of them being a continuation and the last being unfinished. The Member for Colombo South finished his speech which lasted two and a half hours.

Once again, the Council was compelled to adjourn earlier than usual for want of a quorum.

Governor's Visit Welcomed

Ceylon Reforms Delegation in London

THE delegates of the Ceylon National Congress, now in London, expect to pay an official visit to the Secretary of State in Whitehall and this will probably take place before the end of the month, says the London Correspondent of the "Daily News."

It is likely, too, the correspondent adds, that at least one of their number will have the opportunity for an informal conversation with Mr. Malcolm MacDonald. More reliance is placed upon such conversations than upon the more formal opportunities that will be offered to the delegation to advance its views.

Governor's Visit

The news of the Governor's impending visit to London, known here yesterday, though not yet reported in the papers, is welcomed by all those interested in the political situation in Ceylon. It is realised here that the stage is now set for a decision of far-reaching importance to the Island's political development and it is regarded as of the first importance that the Secretary of State should have the benefit of full discussion with the Governor before forming his decision.

The arrival of the delegation has been reported in all the responsible newspapers under such headlines as "Ceylon Constitution Changes" and "Ceylon Seeks More Self-Government." "The Times" had a column article this morning "From Our Colombo Correspondent" which explained the background to the delegation's visit and sought to show that the franchise had been a failure and a Royal Commission was required.

PROTEST AGAINST CERTIFICATIONS

Move by Board of Ministers

It is understood that the Board of Ministers have forward a protest to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, through the Officer Administering the Government, against three of the four certifications by the Governor announced in the State Council on August 10.

The items of expenditure are:— (1) Passages, Rs. 250,000; (2) Holiday Warrants, Rs. 570,000 and (3) Personal emoluments of specified officers of the Police Force, Rs. 29,986.

Indian Irrigation Experts Arrive

To Advise Ceylon Government

THE first two Indians to fill the post of Chief Irrigation Engineer to the Madras Government have arrived in Colombo.

They are Mr. Ramalinga Iyer and Mr. Narasimha Iyengar both of whom are regarded as experts so far as Irrigation matters in the East are concerned.

They have come to Ceylon on the invitation of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands to study irrigation problems in this country, and to advise the Government on the many irrigation problems that are awaiting solution.

They are likely to be in Ceylon for about two months. They will spend a few days at the irrigation head office and will later tour the country on an inspection of the various irrigation works.

It is expected that they will be able to tender valuable advice on the methods of irrigation construction, etc., with a view to economy, as it is generally felt that the irrigation estimates in this country are far in excess of the estimates for similar schemes in India. In connection with this work they will examine the plans and estimates of the various major irrigation works.

The Government also hopes to be able to obtain their advice in connection with the reorganisation of the Irrigation Department.

These two authorities, who are personally known to the Acting Minister of Agriculture, Mr. B. H. Aluwihare, have, it is understood, not stipulated for any particular rates of remuneration.

Their expenses in this country will, however, be paid by the local Government and it is possible that they will be paid an honorarium on the termination of their service.

They are both retired officials of the Madras Government.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 441

In the matter of the Last Will and testament of the late Visuva-nathar Vinayagar of Chulipuram.

Deceased

Theivanaipillai widow of Visuva-nathar Vinayagar of Chulipuram.

Vs. Petitioner

1. Sinnathamby Naga-lingam of do.

2. Vairamuttu Sinnavar and wife

3. Sinnappillai of do.

4. Nagammah daughter of Pandary Kandiah of do.

5. Sellam daughter of Pandary Kandiah of do.

6. Kandiah Kulasingham of do.

7. Ledehumippillai widow of Pandary Kandiah of do.

Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomarasamy, Esq., District Judge Jaffna on the 16th day of February 1938 in the presence of Mr. R. Candiah Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the affidavit and Petition of the Petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 7th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-Item over the minors the abovenamed 4th, 5th and 6th Respondents for the purpose of this testamentary proceedings and Letters of

NO STATE AID TO NEW ENG. SCHOOLS

AN ECONOMY MOVE

DIRECTOR'S SUGGESTION TO COMMITTEE

NEW English or bilingual schools will not receive the usual State-aid given to such institutions, if the economy measures to curtail such expenditure in future finds favour with the Executive Committee of Education, who are considering the question at present.

The Director of Education is strongly in favour of the new move and in a communication to the Minister of Education states: "The policy of more and more English schools, particularly of the present literary type, is now out of date, and the sooner, we cry 'Halt,' the better."

The new move is not intended to prevent new English schools from opening as the result of private educational enterprise, but to put a stop to the registration of new English schools. Private educational agencies may run such schools at their own expense.

State's Responsibility

The Director further points out that the first and primary responsibility of the State is with regard to compulsory primary education. Children between the ages of 6 and 14 should be provided with facilities to gain an education in their home language by the State.

He considers that the State's responsibility to provide for English education, is confined to assisting such education to an extent to which its resources will permit.

Provision has been recently made for a free English course in all Vernacular schools, and in view of the large expenditure on English education, there is no reason, the Director states, why the State should go any further unless additional funds were forthcoming.

In the event of exceptional circumstances, such as a proposal for a few English school in the backward and inaccessible areas, the State could take the initiative and put up a State school.

The Director, in conclusion, states that the move, if approved, would save a lot of disappointment and expense.

WINDING-UP ORDER TO STAND

Travancore Bank's Appeal Dismissed

TRIVANDRUM, Aug. 16

Mr. Justice G. Parameswaram Pillai and Mr. Justice K. Sankarabhaier of the Travancore High Court dismissed today with costs the appeal filed by the Travancore National and Quilon Bank against the order of the District Judge of Quilon directing the winding up of the Bank.

Administration be granted to the Petitioner unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 14th day of March 1938 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 13th day of February 1938.

Extended for 21-9-38.

Sgd. C. Coomarasamy,
District Judge.

[O. 36. 18 & 22-8-38.]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EXECUTION OF DEATH SENTENCES IN 1862

Sir,—As I was reading through some old volumes of the Jaffna "Freeman" edited by the late Advocate Nicholas Gautier Gould, I came across a description of how Death Sentences were executed in 1862. I am appending below a few extracts from the Freeman of October 17, 1862, for the perusal of your readers.

"The two unfortunate fellows, sentenced during the last sessions to undergo the extreme penalty of the law were executed this morning at the usual place behind the Fort—quite a classic spot—The Tyburn of Jaffna. Two executioners had arrived some days previously from Batticaloa, the race of Jaffna Calcrafts, being now extinct. But one of the wretches did not live to perform his dreadful errand, having been carried off last night by a consumption. The other of course had the awful work to do alone.

The gallows were erected yesterday. There having not been an execution in Jaffna since 1855 and the circumstance of one of the men hanged today being the son of an influential headman of Mulletive, considerable interest and sensation prevailed through the province, and persons from its distant parts had arrived yesterday to witness the tragic scene. From an early hour people were pouring in en masse from every part and by the appointed hour the throng had assumed the appearance of a sea of human beings.

We consider the practice of making an execution day a holiday in schools as very injudicious. At nine the criminals were seen approaching the gallows. They had been led out of the Fort through the Sally port on the South attended by the guard of the Ceylon Rifles. Considerable interest was manifested among the people for the Mulletive man who was evidently laboring under great fear and excitement. His youth and beauty did not fail to enlist much pity but inflexible justice must have its course.

Having arrived at the spot, they walked up the gallows. The halters were put round their necks. One seemed quite unconcerned, betrayed no feelings of fear. But it was far otherwise with the young man, the headman's son. He staggered and more than once appeared as on the point of sinking away. But rousing up as it were from a stupor he commenced to sing in a plaintive style some Tamil Lyrics addressed to the Hindu Gods on the vanity of the worldly things and on death and added a few impromptu verses referring feelingly to his own sad and ignominious fate. The effect which this produced surpasses all powers of description especially on the Hindu. The feelings hitherto pent up found vent in tears many a face was averted from the mournful spectacle.

Mr. Liesching on whom devolved the sad task of reading the death Warrant for the first time perhaps could not conceal his emotions. The warrant having been read the young man was apparently fainting away, when it

was found necessary to finish them both.

Yours faithfully,
M. Ramalingam.

Ayodhiya
Manning Place,
Wellawatte
13-8-1938.

Indiscriminate Charity

Sir,—Mr. Muttukumaru M. A. Vice Principal of Parimeswara College, Jaffna, is on a collecting tour in Colombo. Besides himself collecting money, more printed lists are in the hands of his friends and his one time pupils who are in Colombo with the object of collecting money and making his mission a success.

This collection I am given to understand from Mr. Muttukumaru himself is for the purpose of putting up a building at Paranthan to serve as a shelter and resting place for the labourers working in the farms at Paranthan. In other words it is a housing scheme for the labourers at Paranthan at public expense.

Labourers are recruited by the farmers at Paranthan to work in their respective farms, and why, in the name of God, I cannot understand why the public should be called upon to subscribe for the benefit of a few farmers. If the farmers are honestly moved to pity at the living conditions of the labourers whom they recruited for their sole benefit, why not raise a subscription among themselves and put up a building or even two, we want Grumble, without worrying others who have absolutely no interest whatever at Paranthan or its farmers and still less with the labourers.

I am surprised that Mr. Muttukumaru with all his education, brain and intelligence should have undertaken this unworthy cause for the benefit and gain of a few, when more urgent matters which affect the welfare of thousands of people from Jaffna are permitted to be buried in the limbo of oblivion.

To quote a few, I would mention a madam at Matara for the convenience of the pilgrims who go to Kataragama. At present thousands of pilgrims during August Season are accommodated in a rented building at Matara, thanks to the help, self-sacrifice and assistance of the Matara Tamil Union and other charitable people. A madam at Tissamaharama is very urgently required for the pilgrims to rest after 82 miles of bus travelling and before they start for Kataragama walking 13 miles.

Why not Mr. Muttukumaru think of putting up a madam at either of the above places for the benefit of these thousands. It is certainly a laudable cause.

Enterprises of this nature by selfish people should be exposed. I won't be surprised if another scheming farmer starts a paper for laying out a pipe for drinking water, from Yakkachchumalai to Paranthan for the benefit of the labourers, and yet another for a dispensary for the labourers.

It is a sin to help a cause like this, as the one sponsored by Mr.

The Ideal Of A University
Pandit Malaviya's Exhortation to Students

Benaries (By Mail)

"To pass through the portals of a University before a student entered life was not a new thing for a Hindu student. On the other hand, this tradition is as old as time itself. Sri Krishna and Sudama graduated from the Gurukula of the old. Sri Rama and Lakshmana not only learnt the 14 Vidyas but also the art of warfare in a University.

"The ideal of the Benares Hindu University was, therefore, to revive the best traditions of the ancient Gurukulas of India where Hindu sages taught and fed 10,000 students at a time, and which should combine with them the best traditions of the modern Universities of the West where the highest instruction is imparted in Arts, Science and Technology."

Thus observed Pandit Malaviya while delivering his inaugural address to the 4,000 students of the Benares Hindu University in the Shivaji Hall on Tuesday afternoon.

The Real Foundation

Proceeding, he said that the University had formulated four objects, one of which was to promote the building up of character in youth by making religion and ethics as integral parts of education. The University had done a great deal to give effect to this object. It realised that religion was the real foundation of character. Without the dominating and ennobling influence of religion, character lacked its best protection and support, and was more likely to be shaken by difficulties and to succumb to temptation than it would be if the roots of its strength lay deep in the immutable principles taught by religion. All the virtues which elevated human character, supported human society, and promoted peace on earth and goodwill among men were inculcated by means of solemn injunctions, teaching anecdotes and eloquent discourses. 'Gita Kathas' had been started to give students a chance of understanding Hindu philosophy taught by Sri Krishna which had a practical bearing on everyday human life.

Of the various noble things they had inherited, Sanskrit language and literature was the noblest. In it preserved all their sacred literature, all their religious philosophy, all the records of their ancient civilisation and culture in all its rich and varied manifestation containing a complete scheme of society, providing for the physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual welfare of individuals and for their organisation into a powerful community. He exhorted the students to learn Sanskrit.

"Its Own Mission"

There were many Universities, but the Benares Hindu University

Muttukumaru. I hope you, Mr. Editor, will wield your powerful pen to stop this kind of undertakings, at the expense of the public, to benefit a few.

Wellawatte

Fairplay

1-8-38

Notice to Correspondent:

MR. C. K. SWAMINATHAN:

Better you communicate on the subject to the Secretary of the Board.

STABBED OPPOSITE PROCTOR'S BUNGALOW

Lawyer Intervenes in Quarrel

The timely intervention of a Jaffna proctor in a quarrel opposite his bungalow prevented further trouble.

Two parties were going along Front Street towards the Courts. Sinniah Somasundram belonged to one, and Ponnusamy Ponnambalam to the other.

Suddenly a quarrel arose as a result of a man of one party jostling another of the other party. In the scuffle Somasundram was injured with a kris knife.

Cries were raised and Mr. W. M. S. Thampos, proctor, who lived opposite, came up. He snatched the knife and handed it over to the police when they arrived. Ponnambalam was taken into custody and Somasundram was removed to the civil hospital, where he is in a serious condition.

had its own mission to perform in the fields of learning and religion and he hoped that the students who passed through its portals would feel proud of having the hallmark of a great University and would not do a thing which would bring a blot upon their character or lower the prestige of their 'alma mater.'

Germany, France, America, Japan and other civilised countries had built up their National strength and solidarity by the direct teaching of patriotism in their schools. England herself had been doing it. Patriotism had become a religion in Japan.

Every Indian student should imbibe the true spirit of patriotism. They should realise that 'God existed in all living creatures. If they would remember this they would not do anything that would harm their fellow being. From the belief that God existed in all sentiment being has flowed the fundamental teaching which summed up the entire body of moral injunctions of all religions, namely, one should not do unto others that which he would dislike if it were done to him and whatever one desires for himself that he should desire for others also.

Need of Discipline

Dealing with discipline among students, the Vice-Chancellor said that the most self-reliant, self-governing man was always under discipline and the more perfect the discipline the higher would be his moral condition. It was, therefore, necessary for every student to submit to discipline. If the self had not been brought under control, one should act towards oneself with the severity of an enemy.

Concluding, Pandit Malaviya laid considerable stress on physical culture. He said it was a moral guilt to be absent from the playgrounds in the evening. Every student must take physical exercise daily. A student had no right to become sick. A sound mind in a sound body was an old proverb. Without a sound body they could not get on in life. If they observed strict celibacy and took daily exercise, they would undoubtedly develop a keen intellect, a robust commonsense and a strong body—possessions which were necessary for success in life.

Tamil at University College

Women Appreciate Better than Men

"At the beginning of the year under review there were altogether 21 students in the Tamil department, of whom 12 were in the Intermediate, 8 in the Final first year, and 1 in the Final second year. In the middle of the second term when the Intermediate results were announced, only 3 students were left in the Final first year class. Towards the end of the third term the number of students in the Intermediate also was reduced to 9, of whom only 4 were presented for the University Examination; the rest of them were not allowed to sit for it owing to their poor standard in other subjects, says Dr. K. Kanapathipillai, Lecturer in Tamil, University College, in his Annual Report for the year 1936-37.

In the University Examination all the 4 candidates presented for the Intermediate passed in Tamil though 2 of them were referred in Latin and the other 2 failed the examination completely as they could not satisfy the examiners in their other subjects. The only candidate who was presented for the Final degree passed the examination in the second division, reaching a first division standard in Tamil, which made him eligible for the Arunachalam Scholarship in Tamil for the year.

At the start the students who offered Tamil for the Intermediate Examination in Arts were found to be of a rather low standard in Tamil. Most of the students who desire to offer Tamil as a subject for the University Examinations select it for want of other sections. Moreover, they generally think that it is an easy section which they can get through without much work. But they become disillusioned when they actually begin their work in Tamil.

Time and again the students had to be told that the department is not engaged in "coaching up" students for examinations, but is teaching the subject in order to make them understand and appreciate its cultural value; and that if the work done in the class is carefully followed they can also get through the examinations without much difficulty. Even though Tamil was the mother-tongue of all students who joined the class, the interest they showed in it at the beginning of the course was very meagre. Nevertheless, after following the classwork for some time they were found to be sufficiently interested in the subject to appreciate its culture.

It is worthy of special note that in the course of the appeal for the "change of heart" the women students were to respond more readily than the men students. This probably shows that the women students are less utilitarian in their studies than the men. They are in a position to appreciate a study for its own sake. This being so, it is surprising why at least the girls' schools in Ceylon do not take to the teaching of the languages more seriously.

Lacking in Genuine Spirit of Scholarship

(Continued from page 1)

majority of one vote the State Council in 1935 rejected a proposal to allow the University College to impose its own tests of admission. Since 1935 the numbers have grown to an alarming extent. Whatever solution may be adopted for the difficulties which face the University College, it is urgent that the authorities concerned should decide how many students they propose should be admitted to the University when it comes into being. If for instance, as seems probable six or seven years hence, the numbers at the University College (*i. e.*, in two Faculties only) reach one thousand or more, there must be halls of residence enough to house them and corresponding extensions of the main administration and academic buildings and staff quarters. This will involve a largely increased capital expenditure on buildings, amounting to an increase of some millions of rupees. An early decision on the size of the future university has thus become imperative.

No Genuine Spirit of Scholarship

Generally speaking one can claim that the University College has maintained its good record of academic achievement and I take this opportunity of congratulating both teachers and students on their steady and continued success. But the survey cannot escape a note of pessimism in regard to difficulties forced on the institution by the long delay in bringing the University into being and by tendencies hostile to true university education which follow overcrowding. The standard of a university institution must to some extent be determined by its weakest students. The academic officers of this College naturally chafe at the spectacle of well-founded systems disintegrating under the pressure of excessive numbers of students many of whom have no conception of the meaning of a University and are unfit for University studies. There are too few students endowed with the genuine spirit of scholarship, and the College stands in danger of being forced into the mould of a "service" institution. The teachers cannot be blamed for this if the force of parental and public opinion lends itself to such a tendency. But teachers themselves are in danger of falling victims to what Julien Benda called "la Trahison des clercs," the betrayal of the scholars, and one is bound to deplore measures which creep in here and there which suggest that the teacher is encouraging the capable student to think in terms of examinations rather than in terms of scholarship. This would be to extend a defect already present in the

schools to the country's University. It is a defect common to institutions which read for external degrees, and leads to excessive formalization of instruction, to the detriment of both teacher and student. The teacher insensibly falls into the habit of spoon-feeding the student and the student tends to rely mainly on what he can find in the spoon of the formal lecture and to use his teacher's notes as it was once expressed, "as a drunkard uses a lamp-post, not to guide him on his way but to dissimulate his instability". With suitable additions to the staff and with the restriction of admission to those fitted for University study these tendencies can be partly remedied. But if the flow of our best men continues in the direction of the Civil Service, there will be no Ceylonese left fit to take up additional appointments in the University and an insufficient proportion of Ceylon's best brains will make independent contributions to private initiative and enterprises economically profitable to the community. Already some of our good scientists have refused to apply for vacancies in scientific departments, and recently an officer appointed to a permanent Demonstratorship in Chemistry has resigned his post outright in order to attempt the Civil Service Examination. It will be necessary in some cases to recruit officers from abroad, and one could wish that there were less obstacles in the way of such recruitment. There should be no objection, in reason or sentiment, to the employment of officers from abroad, at least on temporary agreements. The great Universities of the Dominions have maintained their standards and their reputation by constant streams of academic officers recruited from the Universities of the United Kingdom.

Honours Diplomas in Sinhalese and Tamil

Some important changes and developments were introduced into the curriculum at the end of the year 1936-37. The change from the Diploma in Economics to the London B. Sc. Economics is referred to by Professor Pake-man. There is no doubt that students prefer to read for a London degree rather than for a diploma which circumstances prevent us from calling a degree. The London curriculum has no place for Honours study in Sinhalese and Tamil, though we have recently been informed that the School of Oriental Studies proposes to introduce them into the Honours curriculum. In the meantime it became urgent that the College should make serious efforts to develop higher studies in the languages of the country. Proposals were therefore submitted for the institution of post-Intermediate Honours Diplomas in Sinhalese and Tamil. A beginning was made in July, 1937, though with one student only in each case. The courses prescribed are calculated to give the Honours student a sound and scientific knowledge of his own language and its related subjects and to remedy the defect of the absence of teachers capable of

REFUSES MEDICAL AID THOUGH ILL

(Continued from page 2)

and thereby to kill him in the name of religion and God," the affidavit further alleged.

"The 'Pentecostal Mission must be declared as an unlawful assembly as its activities are highly objectionable, being deliberately directed against the well-established laws of society and with an avowed object to shake the very foundation of the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services.

"Mr. Rajaratnam should be promptly despatched to a proper medical authority for careful examination and suitable treatment.

"The members of the 'Pentecostal Mission' are open to be charged for attempted homicide and Mrs. Rajaratnam and her father for aiding and abetting Mr. Rajaratnam is open to be charged for attempted suicide.

"In view of the above facts and in view of the interest of the public, an inquiry should be held to investigate the aims and objects, the origin and growth, the conduct and character, and the previous history of each individual member of the Mission so as to check the illegal activities of this unconstitutional body."

Doctor Needed

The Magistrate asked Mr. Govindasamy what he wanted him to do.

Mr. Govindasamy replied that Mr. Rajaratnam should be removed from the Mission House at Mahiyawa and entrusted to a doctor for treatment, and in the event of his death those Pentecostal people must be criminally charged.

The Magistrate said that the most he could do was to refer the affidavit to the police for inquiry. He inquired whether Mr. Rajaratnam's parents were alive, and Mr. Govindasamy replied that they were not, but the mother-in-law and father-in-law were alive, and were against any medical treatment being given him.

Magistrate: Has he no friends?

Mr. Govindasamy: Friends are there, but they are not even permitted to see him unless the Pentecostal men are present. No friend is allowed to see him alone.

Mr. W. Gopallawa: I went myself and was not allowed to see him alone.

Mr. Edward de Silva: I went and offered to get any doctor or native physician, but they were not agreeable to it.

Mr. Gopallawa: Mr. Rajaratnam was in Matale and was removed to Mahiyawa. The place where he is kept is not at all suitable for a patient as there is a lot of noise there. He is very weak and one feels that he is suffering and no friend is allowed to do anything for him.

The Magistrate referred the affidavit to the Kandy police for report

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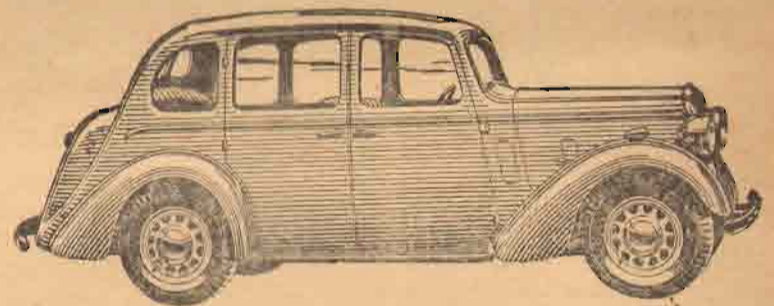
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